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JC05 Rec'd PCT/PTO

In re the

application of: Wilhelm ARDES

International Application No.: PCT/DE00/04299

International Filing Date: 01 December 2000

U.S. Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Herewith

FLUID FILTER WITH REMOVABLE CENTRAL COMPONENT WITH ADDITIONAL RETAINER

Attorney Docket No.: HHI-031US

BOX PCT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the enclosed above-titled International patent application as follows.

In the Specification

Page 1, line 3, after the title, insert the following Background of the

Invention".

Page 1, line 4, please replace the paragraph with the following:

-- The present invention relates to a fluid filter suitable for use in an internal combustion engine.--